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Only good news

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SERVING MARTIN COUNTY PLUS ADJACENT MINNESOTA & IOWA COUNTIES

The guy from just down the road

By Al Batt

My neighbor Crandall stops by.

"How are you doing?" I ask.

"Everything is nearly copacetic. I'm still trying to perfect my imperfections

and the weather continues to pay me no mind, but I had a great breakfast. My charms were luckied. I bought some new socks.



I wear nothing but white socks. That's because when I was a kid, I had only black socks."

"Why?" I say.

"It was easier to patch black socks with a black magic marker. We were poor folks."

"How poor were you?" I ask.

"I wore patches with clothes on them."

Glimpses of nature

The cardinal is the first at the feeder in the morning and the last at the same

feeder when the day's light has grown dim. A cardinal's low-light vision must be good. I watched a male cardinal feeding goldfish in a friend's pond one summer day. The gaping mouths of the fish triggered the cardinal's instinct to feed. This urge to fill an open mouth transcended species.

I heard the double squawk of a rooster pheasant. "Cow cat," it crowed. A sign that daylight is lengthening.

By the time I'd staggered outside to answer the call of the world, the wind had picked up. It was a lazy wind. It went through me instead of around me.

Q-and-A

"I saw a beautiful red fox recently. What does it eat?" It's an omnivore that eats a wide variety of foods including fruits, berries, grasses, fungi, birds, eggs, small mammals (squirrels, rabbits, voles, rats and mice), crickets, caterpillars, grasshoppers, beetles, crayfish, frogs, lizards, fish, worms, pet food,

carrion and garbage. The fox stores extra food under snow, leaves or dirt.

"Why doesn't a cowbird sing like its foster parents?" Brown-headed cowbirds are brood parasites, laying their eggs in the nests of other bird species. The foster parents hatch the eggs and rear the chicks. Baby cowbirds are raised by birds that don't look or act like them, sometimes in strange habitats as eggs are laid in the nests of more than 220 species of birds. Somehow, cowbirds learn to recognize other cowbirds by sound

and sight. Nestlings are particularly responsive to the cowbird's chatter call. Some scientists believe this call triggers something in a young cowbird's brain, like a password that allows a young bird to recognize its own species.

"I've heard that cold kills emerald ash borers. Is that true?" U.S. Forest Service and USDA research found that when larvae are subjected to 0°F, 5 percent die; at -10°, 34 percent succumb; at -20°, 79 percent die; and at -30°, 98 percent perish. Larvae are provided insulation from the outer bark and from below the snow line if situated at the base of trees.

It might require sustained periods at an ambient temperature before temperatures under the bark drop to that level. Gypsy moth die-offs begin at -20, but they are insulated by bark, tree and snow, too. Leaf litter and snow provide insulation for many species of insects. Many crop pests die in cold weather. They migrate or are blown here by storm fronts the next year.

"Can birds survive being bitten by a cat?" Great numbers of birds are rescued from the mouths of cats and submitted to wildlife rehabilitation centers for treatment. From the statistics I could locate, the majority of birds bitten by cats die without immediate treatment or antibiotics; approximately 40 percent die from the direct effects of the bites and about 60 percent from infection.

February is National Bird-Feeding Month

According to research done by AYTM (Ask Your Target Market) in 2015, more than 40 percent of US households feed birds. That's more than 52 million Americans. In 1994, Congressman John Porter of Illinois read a resolution into the Congressional Record. "I would like to recognize February, one of the most difficult months in the United States for wild birds, as National Bird-Feeding Month. During this month, individuals are encouraged to



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Continued on page 14

Hand's Park Business Partners of the Year 2017

The Hand's Park Operations Board would like to recognize the following businesses for their support, time and talents during the 2017 season (submitted photos):



Thate's Tree Service - John Thate - for their ongoing maintenance of the beautiful trees at the park.



Beemer Companies - Pat Beemer - for their commitment to helping bring water and handicap restroom facilities to the park, located south of Fairmont.

(not pictured) **Lawn Solutions - Chad Lutterman** - for their unselfish work to keep the Hand's Park ballfield green and growing.



KITTLESON 90TH - Opal Kittleson of rural Ceylon recently celebrated her 90th birthday. She and her husband, Ted, and their children would like to thank all their family, friends, and neighbors for the "Happy Birthday" cards sent to Opal. She loved reading each one and really appreciates the kindness of everyone remembering her 90th birthday. "Thank you so much!"

Red Rock features photography exhibit

Red Rock Center for the Arts proudly presents a photography exhibit by Terry Thimesch, formerly of Fairmont.

Terry's work will be on display February 13th - March 24th with many scenes familiar to the area. An artist meet and greet open house is scheduled for Saturday, February 17th at 2 p.m., with an artist talk beginning at 2:30. Everyone is welcome, wine and refreshments available.



Terry Thimesch is a husband, father, mentor, and outdoor enthusiast. This interest in photography began back in high school, and many of his photos were featured in the yearbook. For

nearly 35 years, Terry has spent many long and boring hours on the road servicing fire systems throughout Minnesota and Iowa. To pass the time he began taking pictures of the wonder and beauty found in nature. Encouraged by his wife and children, he soon filled his computer with beautiful images. Terry soon discovered View Bug - an online photography contest site. Terry soon rose to the top 10% most popular photographers among the thousands of members.

He continues to take any opportunity to photograph nature, animals, and sunsets. It is his pleasure to share them with you now!

Prairie Star Quilters to meet Monday

The Prairie Star Quilt Guild will meet Monday, February 12th, at the Fairmont Covenant Church at 901 Woodland Avenue, Fairmont. The board will meet at 12:30 p.m., followed by the general membership meeting at 1:30 p.m. New or prospective members are welcome to attend.

The secretary and treasurer reports will be given followed by the librarian's review of new books and magazines added to the guild library. President Barb Mager will present a brief overview of plans for the September Fiber Arts Festival to be presented in September.

A signup sheet for those wishing to participate on one of the various committees for the festival, will be available. A review of the updated by-laws will be discussed and approved. Instructions and kits for the President's service project will be available after the meeting, for members who wish to take home for completion. This year's service project consists of various items for cancer patient care. Upon completion, these items

will be distributed to various local clinic and health care facilities.

To round out the meeting, members will share their creativity by presenting recently completed projects during show-and-tell. Lunch will be provided by Linda Bakken, Jan Shaffer and Debra Jellema, with a door prize provided by Linda Bakken. The evening group will meet at 5:30 p.m.

The Prairie Star Quilt Guild meets on the second Monday of each month at the Covenant Church at 901 Woodland Avenue in Fairmont. Each meeting consists of a brief welcome, a short business meeting, show-and-tell, a quilt related program and a time to visit with other quilters over coffee and light lunch. The guild offers daytime and nighttime meetings. Membership is open to anyone who enjoys quilts or quilting - quilters of all skill levels are always welcome! Information and photos can be found on Facebook at Prairie Star Quilt Guild. For more information contact Barb Mager at 507-776-7601.

Valentine dinner at Grace Lutheran Church

A Valentine Fundraising Dinner will be held at Grace Lutheran Church on Friday, February 16th at 5 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Advanced tickets are \$25 a person or \$180 for a table of 8. At the door, \$30 as available. Tickets can be purchased at Grace Lutheran Church or contact the office at 238-4418 with any questions.

The menu includes Garden Salad, Prime Rib, Potato, Vegetable, Popover

and Dessert.

The evening will include music and keepsake photo. Childcare will be available if needed. A kid friendly meal will be provided for those in child care.

There also will be a silent auction.

This event will help offset the travel cost for 34 youth and six adults traveling to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering in June.

Fairmont United Methodist Church continues its **Wednesday Evening Suppers** through February from 5 to 6 p.m. This Wednesday they will serve scalloped potatoes and ham and next Wednesday it will be tomato florentine and chicken wild rice soups. All dinners include peanut butter & jelly sandwiches, homemade desserts and beverages. A donation of \$2 is suggested.

Red Rock Center for the Arts **Lunch with the Arts** program will feature musical entertainment and stories by Bruce Broldt on Tuesday, February 13th from noon to 1 p.m. Bruce lives in Windom and manages the Prairie Wind Folk Music and Bluegrass Festival and Unsung Songwriters. He enjoys traveling around the country, participating in jam sessions and getting to know singer songwriters everywhere. Free admission. Everyone welcome. Bring a sack lunch if desired. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

Arc Family and Friends will meet in the George Room at the Fairmont Holiday Inn on Monday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m. For any questions, call the Arc office at 507-235-8580 for further details.

KWVA to hold Valentine dinner Feb. 10

All members and spouses of Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA), Chapter 254 are invited to a Valentine Day dinner at The Ranch Restaurant in Fairmont, at

noon on Saturday, February 10th.

All Korean veterans are invited. There will be a drawing for prizes after dinner.

Thank You!

To all our friends and family for remembering us on our 60th Anniversary with a card. We enjoyed hearing from all of you.

~ Sharon & Lefty Luhmann

The East Chain United Methodist Church in East Chain will host the monthly **Community Coffee Party** Saturday, February 10th from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the church. They will serve rolls, donuts, coffee, tea, hot chocolate and juice. Free will offering.

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Hy-Vee offers biometric screenings

In honor of Heart Health Month, Hy-Vee, Inc. has partnered with multiple companies and organizations to provide 3,000 free biometric screenings throughout its eight-state region during the month of February.

Locally, the screenings will take place at the Fairmont Hy-Vee on Wednesday, February 14th, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Hy-Vee dietitians working out of Hy-Vee Healthy You Mobiles will offer the free biometric screenings to customers at 164 Hy-Vee stores. Appointments will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

A biometric screening is a combination of measurements and readings about certain health factors that may help in identifying potential risk factors for chronic diseases or conditions, like heart disease, hypertension or diabetes.

The dietitians will collect a blood sample from a finger prick that will be used to determine cholesterol levels, triglycerides

and glucose levels. They will also take resting blood pressure, measurements of height, weight and waist, and will calculate body mass index.

The entire screening process typically takes 15 to 20 minutes and all results will be reviewed and received during the screening.

Good to <https://hy-vee.com/corporate/news-events/news-press-releases/heart-health-tour-2018/> for screening locations and steps to be taken before arriving for your appointment.

The following organizations helped make the screenings possible: All Whites; National Cattlemen's Beef Association; California Walnuts; Frescados; McKesson; Metamucil; National Watermelon Promotion Board; Quaker; and Smart Chicken. Each person who receives a screening will be given a Heart Health giveaway bag that includes samples, coupons and educational materials.



Classes at Fairmont Elementary School worked hard to earn red tickets during the month of January by following the "Cardinal Expectations." Classes earning at least 250 tickets were rewarded with a fun "Game Day!" Students in grades K-6 enjoyed the time together playing a variety of card and board games. (Submitted photos)

Animal tracking by snowshoes Saturday

Winter is an awesome time to explore the outdoors and see who our wild neighbors are. With the help of a Prairie Ecology Bus Center naturalist, you'll learn which animals stay busy in Minnesota all winter long and how to find them.

The event is Saturday, February 10th from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Cedar Creek Park in Fairmont.

Don't miss your chance to try walking on snowshoes and test your animal tracking skills. This event is free but pre-registration with CER is appreciated to ensure adequate snowshoe supply and refreshments. Call CER at 235-3141.

The event is sponsored by Martin County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and YOCO.

Hand's Park recognizes 2017 local volunteers



The Hand's Park Operations Board would like to recognize Dale Wempen as the Hand's Park Volunteer of the year. Dale donated hundreds of hours of his time to the ongoing maintenance of Hand's Park Silver Lake Field. (Submitted photos)



The Hand's Park Operations Board would like to induct David Huset into the Volunteer Hall of Fame for over a decade of dedicated service as a groundskeeper volunteer. His unselfish donation of time and equipment has helped to make Hand's Park Silver Lake Field a wonderful facility for the youth in our community to enjoy.

Genesis Academy announces honor roll

Genesis Academy of Winnebago released its second quarter honor roll.

Headmaster's List (90% and higher in all core subjects*)

3rd grade
Drake Engelby, Gavin Greiner, Ariel Sahr

4th grade
Jacob Stensland

A Honor Roll (87% and higher in all core subjects*)

3rd grade
Rex James, Stuart Johnson

5th grade
Ruby Ziegler
B Honor Roll (77% and higher in all core subjects*)

4th grade
Jacob Gunzenhauser

5th grade
Abigail Murphey

6th grade
Carter Gunzenhauser, Levi James, Elijah Slater, Wesley Meyer

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Loving Your Heart

Guest Columnist

Dr. Scott Burtis, M.S., D.C., Burtis Chiropractic Center

February is Heart month. Did you see that one coming? While it may be a bit cheesy and obvious, it gives us another chance to remind ourselves to take care of this very important organ. So keep your cholesterol as low as possible, take your blood pressure meds, and when it is time, get some stents put in to keep going. Sound like great advice? For those of you who see the craziness inherent in those pearls of wisdom, read on. If it all made sense to you, you may have been misled or misinformed.

Thanks to stress, lack of exercise, and the Standard American Diet (S.A.D. for short), most of us have hearts that are working way harder than they need to. We also have a health care industry that both intentionally and unintentionally has led us astray. As many of you know by now, the "latest medical research" of the 1970s told us that dietary fat was bad and that low fat, high carb was the way to go. And as many

of you also know, this was misinformation put out on behalf of certain interests that have gained substantial monetary results. Think early version "fake" news. Remember that line they put in all the drug commercials? No, not the long list of side effects including heart attacks, death, and strange growths on your face; the one that goes something like "When exercise and diet fail you, see your doctor". Let's be honest, diet and exercise rarely fail you. And when is the last time you went to your doctor because of heart health concerns and had him or her say "Did you try diet and exercise first?"

We'll cover four things you can do to restore heart health while you make a plan to get off all the meds (before the strange growths start). We'll look at diet, exercise, nutrition/supplementation, and chiropractic.

What are the most recent dietary recommendations? They have changed recent-

ly, but unfortunately most doctors are still giving you the party line from 20 years ago. For instance, many of you remember dutifully getting rid of butter and buying wonderful sounding things like "Promise", and not so wonderful ones like "Country Crock", and "Shed Spred". Turns out that that was bad advice from the get go, but margarine makers were happy. Think of this as a simplified model; what does butter do at 98.6 degrees? It melts! What does margarine do? It stays solid, yellow, and firm, which looks good on your table, but not in your arteries. Hopefully you have all dumped your margarine and started buying butter again. As it turns out, butter is actually good for you, especially if it comes from grass-fed cows. One reason is that it contains oleic acid, one of the good omega-6s. It also contains vitamins A (one tablespoon gives you 7% of your RDA!), D, and K. For you real nutrition geeks, it also contains CLA!

Many of you still avoid eggs, and that was also a mistake from the get go. Turns out your body manufactures the majority of the cholesterol in your body anyway, and dietary restrictions of cholesterol make almost no difference. Eggs are a wonderful source of B vitamins, protein, and choline. So scramble away!

The basic diet recommendations are for plenty of healthy protein, plenty of the right kinds of fats (avocado is on top of that list), and cut out the carbs, especially refined, processed white stuff they loosely call food. White bread, white rice, sugar, and anything with ingredients you can't pronounce. Much of this goes back to the words of one of the most famous chiropractors of all time; "If God made it, eat it. If man made it, don't." That chiropractor was Dr. Jack Lalanne!

Next we'll look at exercise. Anything is better than nothing, and the most important thing is to start. Start with the objective of a healthy heart and not just losing weight. There are a lot of skinny people out there with unhealthy hearts. There's a reason it's called "cardiovascular" in the first place. Start with

walking, and then move to the elliptical, or a recumbent bike. Just move. Save the weight lifting for later in the program.

Next we'll cover vitamins and supplements. Most of you by now know of my aversion to statin drugs. But if you insist on taking them, remember you MUST take CoQ10 along with it. One of the many reasons statin drugs are so bad for you is that they block the body's production of CoQ10, which, as it turns out, is hugely important to the health of your heart muscle cells. Even if you don't take statin drugs, CoQ10 is one of the go-to supplements for heart health. A recent research study combining CoQ10 with selenium found a 49% decrease in death due to cardiovascular disease. That's almost half!! Also noted in that study were 246 less days spent in the hospital over a five year period and higher quality of life. Lecithin is another heart healthy supplement. Lecithin lowers something called homocysteine by up to 30%. Homocysteine is what causes the real damage in your blood vessels. Fish oil is another supplement which has been shown to help heal the heart. A few recent stud-

ies have disagreed with the benefits of fish oil, but there are over 2,000 studies which show it does a heart good! If you want a natural substitute for the statins, red yeast extract will do the trick. And niacin has been shown to lower cholesterol as well as statins do. If you don't recognize that one, it is more commonly known as vitamin B3.

Finally, one of my favorite ways to improve heart health and that is chiropractic. A study published a few years back out of the University of Chicago showed that a specialized type of chiropractic was just as effective as a combination of two medications for lowering blood pressure. The best part? No side effects like the drugs have. Chiropractic has also been shown to increase heart rate variability, which is a reflection of nervous system balance. And the side effects of chiropractic? Less pain, better energy, and mobility.

Have a happy and healthy Heart Month. Love your heart, and it will love you back.

Dr. Scott Burtis is a chiropractor and functional medicine specialist who practices in Fairmont, MN.

Martin County 4-H sees opportunity in Adventure Playground

By Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerence

Plans are in place for an all-inclusive playground, known as Adventure Playground, to be installed in Gomsrud Park in Fairmont. The Adventure Playground's thoughtful design ensures that youth of all abilities - physical or cognitive - can fully utilize and receive the benefits of outdoor play.

Martin County 4-H is very excited at the prospect of an all-inclusive playground within our community. This is especially true as we are dedicated to providing positive youth development programming to all youth of all abilities. The all-inclusive playground would allow us to fulfill this mission by giving us the opportunity to provide the full-version of our fun and engaging summer programming to anyone who wishes to participate.

4-H is a learn-by-doing experiential youth program, and this includes learning through play. The all-inclusive playground would allow us to add this element of learning through play for all the youth in our

community. In our summer programs, the youth members are given the opportunity for moments of free play, which usually involves the youth playing on the park's available playground equipment. These moments of free play on the playground are just one more way for us to provide important skill-development. As the youth interact and explore the playground equipment together, they are developing skills in creativity, problem-solving, decision-making, coping, communicating, and responding to the needs of others. However, the free play discussed can exclude some of our youth members who have different abilities, as they are unable to fully utilize the playground in the same way as the rest of the group. This means that these youth members are missing out on an important component of our summer programs. With the installation of an all-inclusive playground, we can ensure that this important aspect of skill development is made

available to all of our youth members.

The proposed Adventure Playground will also be an exciting addition as it will allow for true interaction and play to happen between youth of varying abilities as the playground will be fun for all youth to use. Imagine a youth member in a wheelchair being able to go down the slide with their friend, who may not be living with a disability, right next to them using the rollerslide; or a youth member with a sensory disorder being able to play with their friends in the comfort of the cozy domes; the possibilities for relationship building and skill-development among all of our youth with this playground is really remarkable.

This is why an all-inclusive playground would be one more tool in helping Martin County 4-H provide the essential, transferrable life skills youth obtain through our 4-H programming to everyone. Martin County 4-H sees great opportunity in utilizing the all-

inclusive playground as it would allow us to fully realize our mission of providing positive youth development for all of the youth members in our community. This is why Martin County 4-H would find the Adventure Playground to be a great asset, not only for our 4-H program, but for the community as a whole.

For more information on the Adventure Playground, visit <http://www.exploreadventureplayground>

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? JAMES 2:15,16

"Mothers" by Käthe Kollwitz (1919)

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What's Cooking

with Kathy Lloyd

Still Soup Weather!

I'm glad the new soup recipe I tried last week was a good one, so it would be appropriate this week! I didn't use the bourbon because I didn't have any. It's a very large recipe. I halved it and it still fed us most of the week! The recipe comes from the Grand View Lodge in Northern Minnesota. I didn't have cajun seasoning either, but I looked up the ingredients and made my own. I will include what makes up cajun seasoning so that you can do the same if you want. The soup wasn't that spicy, the ingredients for the seasoning are listed in the order of the amounts starting at the beginning.

Bourbon Chicken Soup

- 2 cups diced potatoes
- 2 cups diced onions
- 2 cups diced celery cups
- 2 cups sliced mushrooms
- 4 tbsp. Cajun seasoning
- 1 cup bourbon
- 1 quart heavy cream
- 3 quarts chicken stock
- 1 tbsp. minced garlic
- 3 tbsp. sliced scallions
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup butter
- 2 lbs. Italian sausage
- 1 lbs. chicken breasts, cut in bite sized pieces
- salt and pepper to taste

In a large pot over medium heat add butter, chicken, sausage, onions, celery and mushrooms. Sauté until chicken and sausage is cooked through and the vegetables are tender. Add garlic and Cajun seasoning and de-glaze with bourbon. It will flame up so be careful! Add flour to make a roux in the pot. Cook for a minute and then add chicken stock. Cook until liquid thickens. Add diced potatoes and heavy cream. Cook until potatoes are fork tender. Garnish with sliced scallions.

Ingredients for Cajun seasoning: paprika, onion powder, garlic powder, marjoram, thyme, fennel seed, cumin and cayenne pepper. I used just 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper and adjusted the amounts according to how listed to my taste.

In last week's column for the salad recipe, somehow after the dressing ingredients there was a method for a completely unrelated recipe. I don't know how that happened, but after the dressing ingredients the recipe is completed.

Stay warm and have a good week!

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



MARTIN COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

The Carl Nettifee Memorial Animal Shelter
522 E. MARGARET ST. • FAIRMONT, MN • 238-1885
pawprints.petfinder.com
Email: pawprints01@hotmail.com
HOURS: Tue & Thurs 6-8 p.m. • Sat 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

A FEW OF OUR CATS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

HAILLEY was surrendered due to the death of her owner. She is missing the human touch and attention that she received in her home. Hailley is a mellow, middle aged girl. She is gray with patches of light orange in her coat. Hailley really wants another lap to sit in and thinks you might be a good choice.

SABLE is a black male cat. He is 6-9 months old and is very playful. Sable takes a friendly swipe at every finger, string and shadow that comes near his cage. If you want some extra energy in your house, Sable can provide it. **CJ** is still waiting for you! This goofy guy is playful and happy until you try to put him back in his cage. He knows the drill and tries hard to stay free. Can you save this big white and black guy from his hated cage.

A FEW OF OUR DOGS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION:

BOO is a very bouncy and energetic black lab and German Shorthair mix. This 7-8 month-old girl loves to ride in cars, go for long runs, and play. Boo seems to love everyone both human and canine.

AVA is a German Shepherd mix that is about 2 years old. She has the large ears and height of the breed. Ava is a mottled black and brown, with brown predominating.

PERRY wants a home of his own where he won't have to share attention and space with another dog. Perry is a mix of perhaps Golden Retriever, shepherd, and lab. Energetic and outgoing, Perry is ready for adventures.

Order your Valentine Day roses! A dozen mixed color roses for \$20, the joy on the face of the recipient-priceless. To order call the shelter 238-1885 or email us at pawprints01@hotmail.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hospital Foundation Thanks

It is an honor and a privilege to accept on behalf of Fairmont Community Hospital Foundation, the gift of \$1,000,000 from the estate of Marlin Milbrandt.

Through his gift to the Foundation, as well as to four other nonprofit organizations in Fairmont, Mr. Milbrandt embodied the spirit of generosity that has helped to make our community a wonderful and loving place in which to live. He reflected the belief that neighbors helping neighbors is essential. As stated in the vision of the Foundation, it is im-

portant that health care remains local with "neighbors caring for neighbors". With Mr. Milbrandt's gift, and those of many other donors, the Foundation will continue to work to support our local hospital with funds and grants.

We are truly grateful for the gift, and will pledge to honor Mr. Milbrandt with good stewardship of his gift, on behalf of his community.

Sincerely,
Jane Kipp Kotewa,
President
Fairmont
Community Hospital
Foundation Board

* * *

CREST Annual Appeal Thanks

On behalf of the CREST Board of Directors and staff, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to everyone who participated in the 2017 CREST Annual Appeal as well as those who gave generously throughout the year.

We were able to raise over \$22,000 during the Annual Appeal and this will enable us to continue reaching out to those in need in Martin County

* * *

Calling All Hunger Heroes!

It is time again for the Kids Against Hunger Pack in Fairmont on February 17th. For the past several years I have participated with my coworkers and their families through my employer Bolton & Menk. The experience has been fun and rewarding, helping those in need.

The pack is set up in 2 hour shifts with multiple, 10 person teams participating. There is an instruction session and then the packing begins. Teams do not directly compete against each other but we always make it a race to try and have the most meals

packed during our shift. The faster the better!

It is a great way to network with other volunteers that want to help make a difference. The event has been growing every year and I encourage more members in the community to participate and donate to this cause.

To sign up or donate, contact Beth Reeve at 507-235-5107 or kahfairmont-mn@gmail.com. Please note that the location for this year is St. John Vianney School.

Thank You,
Matt Cole



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CHECK IT OUT!

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Coding makes the world go round. It's what makes apps on our phones work, or websites appear the way they do. It's a tremendous skill to have, as the world runs on more and more digital platforms. Because coding is the wave of the future, we're starting a Code Academy at the Fairmont Library! Thanks to a generous grant

from the Martin County Youth Foundation, we were able to purchase Chromebooks for this awesome program! Code Academy is designed for kids ages 7-12, and due to space limitations, we ask that you pre-register at the desk. Each month, our participants will learn how to code by using Chromebooks and engaging in other related activities. Come and try out your coding skills at the Code Academy! There is no cost for this program, but pre-registration is required. Call the Fairmont Library at 238-4207 or stop in for more information and to sign-up.

Area College Student News



Iowa Lakes Community College has announced its graduation list for the end of the Fall 2017 semester.

Fairmont

Brandon Harder, Associate in Applied Science, Game Design & Development

Granada

Mitchell Nowak, Associate in Arts
Monique Brockmann, Magna Cum Laude, Associate in Arts

Iowa Lakes Community College Fall Honors List

Alpha

Shania Heinrichs
Armstrong
Colton Nicoson
Michelle Moen
*Roseann Keesling
Tyler Rezac
Dolliver
*Drew Herum
Dunnell
*Adam Franck
*Joseph Mahin
Granada

*Konnor Kristenson
Northrop
Nathaniel Crissinger
Swea City
Riley Kintzle
Trimont
Madeline Ebeling
Truman
Dylan Terry
Welcome
Bailey Behrens
*Logan Weber
*Indicates a 4.00 (A) average (President's List)

Megan Schock of Granada, recently graduated from Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) at the end of Fall Semester 2017. Schock

received AA for Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Rachel Tschumperlin of Fairmont, graduated with a B.S. in Art Education in December 2017 from University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie, Wis.

Alexander Bertram of Fairmont, majoring in Manufacturing Engineering, received the University of Wisconsin-Stout Chancellor's Award for the fall 2017 semester. The award is presented to students who have a grade point average of 3.5 or above. The university is located in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

Local students from Buena Vista University (BVU) recently completed an internship during January Interim.

Derek Hunwardsen, a senior biology major from Fairmont, interned at Hope Ministries in Elk Point.

Emily Kim, a senior biology major from Fairmont, interned at Kijabe Hospital in Kijabe.

BVU had over 80 students participating in the three-week internship program across the country.

"Interns can be a supportive asset to any company looking for additional help within their workforce," said Kristi Davis, assistant director of career and personal development and internship coordinator at BVU. "They provide new insight and can assist with completing larger projects."

PhotoPress Only good news Deadline Monday at Noon for Wednesday's publication

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WARRANTY DEEDS
Wells Fargo Bank to Kimberly Assink, Pt. NE¼NW¼, 24-103-29
Jennifer Marie James, Jennifer M. Preston, Michael Preston to J. Drew Goraczkowski, JD Goraczkowski, Megan Goraczkowski, Lot 6, Block 2, Ext. to Reynolds Addn., Granada
Alan Melvin Bosshart, Carl Gene Bosshart, Debra Bosshart, George John Bosshart, Kathryn Bosshart, Oksun Bosshart, Kathleen Ann Jorgensen, Thomas Jorgensen, Rose Mary Kasten, Michael G. Martinson, Sarah J. Martinson to Sawyer Krenz, Hailey Olson, Pt. A.P. #33, #34, #35 and strip, 9-104-30
Mr Cooper, Nationstar Mortgage LLC to Federal National Mortgage Association, Lot 8, Block 2, Gilberts Addn.

Britnie Miller, Travis J. Miller to Robert Schroepfer, Shelby Schroepfer, Lot 4, W½ Blk 4 Gambles Addn.

Bret McFarland to Jacob C. McFarland, N.28' Lot 7, S.22' Lot 6, Block 8, Ext. to Gambles Addn.

Martin County Rental Resources LLC to Mid American Properties LLC, Lot 2, Block 5, Taylor & Johnsons 2nd Addn.

Martin County Rental Resources LLC to Mid American Properties LLC, Lot 10, Block 5, Original Plat Sherburn

Jody L. Lyle, Stephen M. Lyle to Ruth Ann Schueler, Lot 6, Block 1, Fairview Addn.

Andrew Jorgensen, Andrew Jorgenson to Lori Jorgensen, Pt. SW¼SW¼, 21-102-29

QUIT CLAIM DEEDS
City of Trimont to Nathan Vrieze, Lot 7, E½ Lot 8, Block 8, Original Plat Monterey

City of Fairmont to Christina Thate, Joseph Thate, Lot 13, Block 10, Lake George Addn.

Ricklyn Dawson to Rodney Dawson, Rochelle Olson, Pt. Govt. Lot 2, NE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 14, NW¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 3, SE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 15, SW¼, 30-101-30

Radann Dawson to Rodney Dawson, Rochelle Olson, Pt. Govt. Lot 2, NE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 14, NW¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 3, SE¼, Pt. Govt. Lot 15, SW¼, 30-101-30

Catherine D. Foster, Perry Foster, Catherine D. Lemier to Catherine D. Foster, Perry Foster, Lot 5, Block 11, Goulds Addn.

Jon B. Lovell to Julie M. Lovell, Pt. AP 54, NW¼NE¼, 9-104-30

Kids' Maze

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Fairmont Area High School senior Claire Cutler was named a Rotary "Student of the Month." Claire is the daughter of Nick and Courtney Cutler and she has one sister, Brenna. Claire's active school life includes participation in band, Target, Cardinal Leadership Council, the school musical, volleyball, basketball, and track & field. She also served as the junior class vice-president and is the Color Guard captain. Upon graduating, Claire plans to attend either the University of South Dakota or South Dakota State University. (Submitted photo)



Conner Tordsen, a senior at Fairmont Area High School, was named a Rotary "Student of the Week." Conner is the son of Jamie and April Tordsen. He has an older brother, Walker, and two younger brothers, Sawyer and Oliver. Conner's many high school activities have included football, wrestling, track & field, band, the school musical and winter play, Cardinal Leadership Council, and Target. After graduation, Conner is interested in attending Bethel University with plans to pursue a career in chiropractic or physical therapy. (Submitted photo)

Out on a Limb by Gary Kopervas

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018 10:30 AM - KAY & MARK SAUCK AND JANE E. & DAVID C. HALVERSON 239.24 Acres +/- Waverly Township, Martin County, MN Farmland Auction. Sale Location: Truman Community Center at 313 N. First Avenue, Truman, MN. DAN PIKE & ASSOCIATES

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21, 2018 10:00 AM - MARVIN REZAC ESTATE - 160 Acres +/- 160 Acres +/- Farmland & Bldg Site Auction in Section 18 of Middletown Twp, Jackson Co., MN. Sale to be held at the Jackson American Legion Hall. DAN PIKE & ASSOCIATES

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2018 9:45 A.M.- BERNELL 'BUZZ' & CHERYL VOSS - Retirement Farm Equipment Auction including: '01 CIH MX270 Magnum, '00 CIH MX270 Magnum, '79 JD 4640 & '73 JD 4630 Tractors; '98 JD 9610 Combine, Truck, Trailer, Field Equip & Much More! Sale Location: Jackson Area. DAN PIKE & ASSOCIATES

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- Kevin Kahler, 235-5014
- Doug Wedel, 236-4255
- Dustyn Hartung 507-236-7629
- Ryan Kahler, 764-4440
- Dan Pike, 847-3468
- Dar Hall, 327-0535
- Leah Hartung 507-236-8786

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7. Edna
8. Gladys
9. Florence
10. Bertha

Source: Ancestry.com
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239.24 Acre - Waverly Township - Martin County, Minnesota

Farmland Auction
Tuesday, February 20, 2018 @ 10:30 A.M.
Blizzard/Storm Date - Tuesday, February 27, 2018, but please check our web site www.danpikeauction.com for any updates.

SALE LOCATION: Truman Community Center at 313 N. First Avenue Street in Truman, Minnesota

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: W1/2 NE1/4 & that part of the SW1/4 & NW1/4 lying east of Mink Creek except tracts 27-104N-31W Martin County, Minnesota. Full legal description will be provided at the auction.

PROPERTY LOCATION: From the junction of Highway #15 & County Road #50 on the south edge of Truman, Minnesota - 6 miles west to 160th Avenue, then 3 miles south on 160th Avenue to 210th Street. Look for auction signs on property.

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METHOD OF SALE: Property will be offered as 1 parcel of 239.24 acres more or less.

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OWNERS
Kay & Mark Sauck and Jane E. & David C. Halverson
Attorney for the Estate -
Darin G. Haugen - Erickson, Zierke, Kuderer & Madsen, P.A.
114 West Second Street Fairmont, Minnesota 56031 - Office Phone 507-238-4711

SALE CONDUCTED BY
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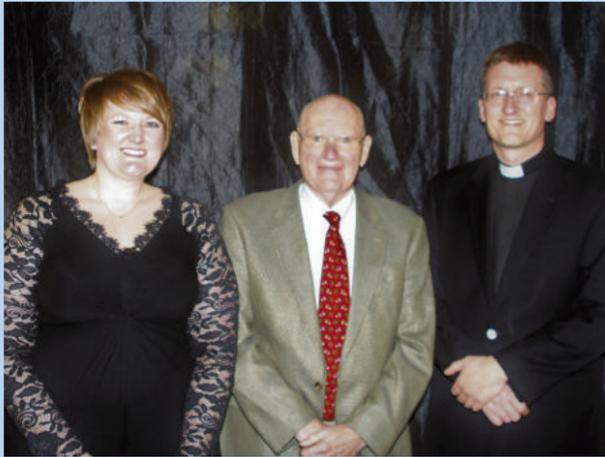
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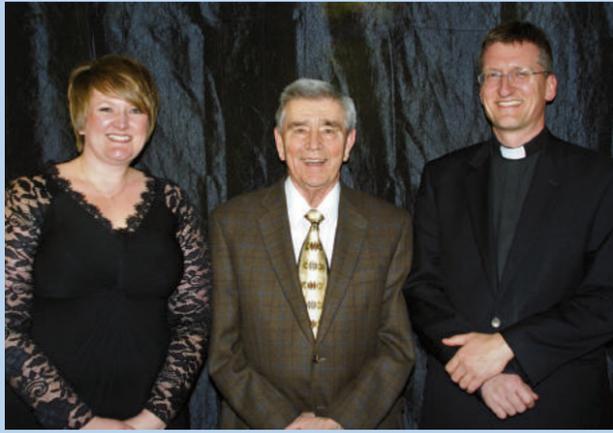
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The Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus Co-Sponsored the 14th annual St. John Vianney School Dinner/Dance Saturday, January 27th. The 2018 featured St. John Vianney School alumnus and keynote speaker was Dr. Bob Hilgers. Pictured (L to R): Sarah Striemer, St. John Vianney Catholic School Principal; Dr. Bob Hilgers, 2018 Featured St. John Vianney School Alumnus and Fr. Andrew Beerman, St. John Vianney School Superintendent and pastor of SJV and Holy Family Parishes. (Submitted photo)



During the 14th annual St. John Vianney School Dinner/Dance last Saturday, Jim Simser was selected as the 2018 "Friend of the St. John Vianney School". Jim was recognized for his continual support of the Catholic School and Church, as well as for his support of our community. Pictured (L to R): Sarah Striemer, St. John Vianney Catholic School Principal; Jim Simser, 2018 "Friend of the St. John Vianney School" recipient and Fr. Andrew Beerman St. John Vianney School Superintendent and pastor of SJV and Holy Family Parishes. (Submitted photo)



At the 14th annual St. John Vianney School Dinner/Dance, the Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus presented a check for \$51,000 to the St. John Vianney School. These funds represent the proceeds of a fund-raiser recently sponsored by the local Council. Pictured (L to R): Sarah Striemer, St. John Vianney Catholic School Principal; Chad McGowan, Grand Knight of the Fairmont Area Knights of Columbus and Fr. Andrew Beerman St. John Vianney School Superintendent and pastor of SJV and Holy Family Parishes. (Submitted photo)

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Jeff's Jottings

Well, I guess that we have six more weeks of winter to endure. The infamous "Punxsutawny Phil" saw his shadow last Friday morning, predicting six more weeks of winter. It is a tradition for the people of Punxsutawny, Pennsylvania to celebrate Groundhog Day each year to see what Phil will predict for all of us weather-wise. He is so popular that a number of years ago a movie called "Groundhog Day" was released, starring Bill Murray and it dealt with Murray's character having an "out of this world" event take place that he relived Groundhog Day over and over again, no matter what he did to try and break the



spell. I enjoy watching that movie, mostly because I am a fan of Bill Murray. The movie showed just how much pomp and circumstance takes place around this once a year event and how it is the talk of the "weather world" for one day each year. I guess I have not really researched just how accurate Phil's predications have been, but I hope he is wrong this year. I am ready for winter to start wrapping up and getting on to warmer and nicer weather.

Not so super commercials

I really wasn't too interested in watching the Super Bowl Sunday night, but I still did for two main reasons: 1. it was taking place in our home state of Minnesota and 2. I always like watching it for the commercials that air before, during and after the Super Bowl. I did enjoy the music performances and all of the video foot-

age of Minneapolis during the game. Pink's performance of the National Anthem was especially good, knowing that she was battling the flu and she still did a great job. The halftime performance was good also, especially the portion that was a tribute to the late Prince and seeing Minneapolis lit up in purple. The disappointment of the evening was in the commercials. I usually enjoy watching the many humorous and even clever commercials each year, but I have to say that this year was a big letdown. You'd think that with the amount of money they spend to air on this platform, they would be more creative than they were this year. The Budweiser commercial was good for the content, but I still missed not seeing the Clydesdales in the commercial. Oh well, there is always next year!

A new "What is it?"

We apparently stumped

everyone with our "What is it?" the past two weeks. The item, according to the person who brought it in, was a mica cutter, used for repairs on old starters and generators. We have a new item for this week, brought in by Randy Musser of Fairmont. The item is made out of cast steel and measures about 6 inches long. The two flat pieces pivot up and down slightly and it looks like this item could be mounted to something, according to the three holes it has. The only identification on it are the words "Patent Applied For". Do you think you know what it is? Email me at jeff@fairmontphotopress.com or call in your answer at 507-238-9456. If you correctly identify the item, you will receive a 2018 Photo Press Desk



Calendar! If you have an item that you aren't sure what it is or you think would be good for a future "What is it?," bring it in to our office or send me a picture or two of the item, along with a description of size and so on.

Valentine's Day, blood drive and more!

With Valentine's Day next Wednesday, February 14th, there are a number of Valentine's dinners and events, along with Valentine's specials at area restaurants (see our special section this week). Here are some events that are taking place around the area in the next week. Wednesday evening meal at Fairmont United Methodist Church will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. on February 7th. They will serve scalloped potatoes and ham for a donation. Next Wednesday's meal will be Ash Wednesday Lenten Soup. On Saturday, February 10th East Chain Unit-

ed Methodist Church will host their monthly Community Coffee Party from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. in East Chain. On Sunday, February 11th SMILES Center for Independent Living will have their annual Valentine's Dance and Dinner from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Holiday Inn in Fairmont. The bloodmobile will be in Fairmont next week, starting Tuesday, February 13th from 1-7 p.m., Wednesday, February 14th from Noon to 6 p.m. and Thursday, February 15th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Fairmont. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment to donate much needed blood. Then of course, Wednesday, February 14th is Valentine's Day, which I'm sure many will be celebrating in one form or another that day!

Drive safely - visit a shut-in or family member - Eat, Play, Shop Local - treat someone special for Valentine's Day!

- Jeff

Historical Society donation to help "keep history alive"

When Lenny Tvedten, Director of the Martin County Historical Society, found out that the organization would be one of five recipients of a major donation from the estate of a local resident,

he was at first somewhat shocked, but also very grateful for such a monetary gift left as a legacy. "It is quite a shock, especially when you see such a large check in your hands, but this will come as a great gift not only to the museum, but for the residents of Martin County," stated Tvedten at a recent check presentation at the law offices of Edman and Edman in Fairmont.

Longtime Fairmont area resident Marlin Milbrandt passed away in January of 2017 and his wishes were to leave a large part of his estate to five local organizations: Martin County Histori-

cal Society, Fairmont Salvation Army, Fairmont Hospital Community Foundation, Lakeview Methodist Healthcare and the Fairmont Opera House.

Jeff Hagen, President of the Martin County Historical Society, stated that when the board was informed of the generous gift, the general consensus was that the money should be used to help keep the history of Martin County alive and preserved for future generations for many years to come. "The board does not have specific plans at this time since we are still "digesting" the magnitude of such a donation, but I do know that we plan to place part of the gift in an endowment fund to guarantee that the rich history of this area has a place to preserve it and be accessible to future generations," stated Hagen.

"It's great that Mr. Milbrandt believed enough in "keeping it local" that he left such a generous legacy to help these local organizations."

The historical society has plans to help make history be preserved digitally and also be able to present younger generations with more interactive displays at the museum, so some of the funds may go towards these and other projects.

"What better way to leave a true legacy and promote things locally than what Mr. Milbrandt did. He truly showed how much he believed in keeping it local," stated Hagen.

In the coming weeks, the Photo Press will bring you stories from the other four recipients and their plans for the Milbrandt donation.



Pictured (L to R): Jeff Hagen, MCHS President; James Marushin, MCHS Curator; Chris Pierce, MCHS Treasurer; Lenny Tvedten, MCHS Director and John Edman, Milbrandt Estate Personal Representative and Attorney.



Lilly Meyers (center), a 4th grader at Fairmont Elementary School, was presented a Citizenship Award from the Fairmont Police Officers for a random act of kindness she showed the school crossing guards. The award was presented to Lilly during the 4th grade lunch time. Lilly's kind act was delivering homemade hot chocolate to crossing guards on a cold winter morning. Congratulation to Lilly on this well-deserved award! (Pictured L-R): Officer Beletti, Officer Hunter, Katelyn Draper, Lilly Meyers, James Draper, Jim Draper, Fred Link, Marly Hagen. (Submitted photo)

VARIOUS CITY OWNED PROPERTIES

MOWING PROPOSALS

Requests for proposals for mowing various City owned properties, and other properties as directed by the City. A nuisance property list between 5 and 35 lots of various sizes and conditions will be provided to the contractor throughout the year. These properties will be in varying conditions and grass will be in excess of 6 inches in height in violation of the City's nuisance ordinance. The City will arrange a schedule for continued care on these properties if required.

PROPOSALS SHALL MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS

City owned properties to be mowed the entire growing season are listed here:

- 1446 Larson Lane
- 1330 North Avenue N
- 509 East Sixth Street
- 614 North Orient

- Nuisance properties shall be mowed the first time within 48 hours of a call from City Staff.
- Properties must be mowed and all hard surfaces cleaned of grass clippings.
- Grass must be mowed to a height of 3 inches.
- All structures, posts, outbuildings, sidewalks, and driveways to be trimmed.
- Proposals shall be based on cost per individual property for each mowing operation. Note: lots will vary in size.
- Proposals must include a certificate of liability insurance.
- Proposals must include a list of equipment that will be used for the completion of the work.
- If employees are used a certificate of workers compensation insurance shall accompany the proposal.

City Properties Excluded from this request are Southern Minnesota Education Campus, Burton Lane, Poetters Circle Townhouses and Fairmont Business Development Center.

Proposals will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on February 23, 2018.

Proposals will be review by City Staff and awarded by March 15, 2018.

For questions or concerns contact:
Mike Humpal, City Administrator - 238-3936
Troy Nemmers, Public Works Director/City Engineer - 238-3942

Dining and Entertainment

Fairmont Eagles 2128 Lake Ave • 238-2555

Friday, February 9 • 5-7pm: Burger Night!

Saturday, February 10 • 5-7pm: Fish Fry
Featuring deep fried, pan fried and steamed with your choice of potato and salad bar.

Saturday, February 10 • 7-11pm: Good Times Karaoke

Sunday, February 11 • 4-8pm: Steve Lange & Bob Petrowiak

Monday, February 12: Kitchen opens 5pm • Bingo 7pm

Tuesday, February 13 • 7pm: Dart League

Wednesday, February 14: Happy Valentines Day
Featuring deep fried, pan fried and steamed with your choice of baked potato, hashbrowns, ff, sour cream and chive fries or tator tots. Coffee and water included. \$10 all you can eat

Fridays: Full Menu Available • Full Service Bar • Everyone Welcome!

Valentine Fundraising Dinner Browse the Silent Auction

February 16th • 5pm or 7pm
Grace Lutheran Church • 300 S Grant

Advanced Tickets • \$25 a person or \$180 for a table of 8
At the Door • \$30 as available 238-4418

Prime Rib, Garden Salad, Potato, Vegetable, Popover & Dessert

The evening will include music and keepsake photo and childcare if needed.

This event will help offset the travel cost for 34 youth & 6 adults traveling to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering in June.

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
5pm: All-U-Can-Eat Fish with fries & coleslaw for \$10.75

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10
1:30pm: Cribbage Tournament \$10 entry per person (2nd Saturday of every month)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
Ladies Night w/ Red Dirt Road
First drink for ladies is FREE.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Good Times Karaoke

LEGENDS II Pub & Grill
CEYLON, MN • 507-632-4696
Good food, good friends, good times!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN VIANNEY FAIRMONT

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

FEB 8 - 14

THUR: BBQ pork sandwich, baked beans, cucumbers, fruit cocktail.
FRI: Chili cheese dog, tator tots, carrots, pears.
MON: Chicken patty, tator tots, cucumbers, mandarin orange & pineapple.
TUE: Tacos, brown rice, refried beans, jicama sticks, applesauce.
WED: Fish sticks, tator tots, celery sticks, peaches.

SENIOR DINING WEEKLY MENU

Senior Dining is served each weekday at 11:30 a.m. at Friendship Village Monday thru Friday. Meals catered by Lakeview Methodist Healthcare. To reserve your meal, call 238-1650 between 9 a.m. and noon the day before. All area seniors welcome. LSS Senior Nutrition is made possible in part under the Federal Older American Act through an award from the MN River Area Agency on Aging under an area plan approved by the MN Board on Aging.

FEB 8 - 14

THURS: Roast turkey, dressing, gravy, squash, rice.
FRI: Shrimp poppers, hashbrown bake, winter mix veggies, ice cream.
MON: Bean soup, cornbread, applesauce, twinkie dessert.
TUE: Pot roast, red skin potatoes, gravy, baby carrots, custard.
WED: Chicken ala King, beet pickle, lettuce salad, brownie.

FAIRMONT AREA

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

Breakfast menu can be found online. FEB 8 - 14

THUR: K-6: Chicken fajitas, rice, turkey ham & cheese sandwich, refried beans, salad, apple, fruit cocktail. **JR/HS:** BBQ pork, baked beans, coleslaw, cucumbers, grapes, fruit cocktail.
FRI: K-6: Cheese pizza, nachos fun lunch, corn, caesar salad, strawberries, applesauce. **JR/HS:** Chili cheese dog, tator tots, celery sticks, carrots, apple, pears.
MON: K-6: Hamburger, egg & cheddar chef salad, dinner roll, fries, baked beans, banana, peaches. **JR/HS:** Sweet & sour ckn, rice, dinner roll, green beans, spinach & cranberry salad, cucumbers, banana, mandarin orange & pineapple.
TUE: K-6: Chicken nuggets, dinner roll, turkey ham & cheese sandwich, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli salad, blueberries, fruit cocktail. **JR/HS:** Tacos, refried beans, rice, pepper strips, jicama sticks, orange, applesauce.
WED: K-6: Fish sticks, dinner chicken ranch wrap, carrots, cucumber, apple, pears. **JR/HS:** Fish sticks, tator tots, coleslaw, celery sticks, grapes, peaches.

TRUMAN AREA

Menus subject to change due to inclement weather, shortages or delays in shipping.

FEB 8 - 14

THUR: BBQ chicken wrap, fried, veggies, fruit.
FRI: Spaghetti, breadstick, coleslaw, spinach salad, peaches.
MON: Crispito, chili, refried beans, broccoli, applesauce.
TUE: Ribette, mashed potatoes, carrots, pears.
WED: Cheese pizza, spinach salad, green beans, pineapple tidbits, fruit treat.

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Menus subject to change.

FEB 8 - 14

THUR: Shredded pork sandwich, sour crm & chive potatoes, peas, peaches.
FRI: Taco salad, applesauce, bar.
MON: Cheesy chicken sandwich, fries, green beans, banana.
TUE: Ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, bread, apricots.
WED: BBQ riblet, cheesy hashbrowns, carrots, pears.

4-H

The Fox Lake 4-H club held their January meeting at the Welcome Legion on January 21st, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting

was called to order and the Flag and Club pledges were said. The roll call was "What was your favorite Christmas present?" The Treasurer and Secretary reports were given. For old business, bell ringing for the Salvation Army and the family we sponsored for Christmas

was reviewed. New business included Kids Against Hunger update. We will participate in the packing on February 17th from 2-4 p.m. at St. John Vianney School. Please arrive by 1:45 p.m. to get instructions for the shift. The Community Pride projects where discussed. The committee consisting of Annie, Mercedes, Kaïden, and Alexi, decided to

explore additional ideas for Community Pride and will report back to the Club. The planned activity for the February meeting will be food demonstrations. Each member/family will demonstrate making a different type of food/dessert and serve it for the meal after the meeting. Be sure to get enrolled/re-enrolled for 4-H next year too if you have not already done so.

Federation meeting was January 29th, 2018. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11th at 4:00 p.m. Please come at 2:30 p.m. to help with the scrap book if possible. After the meeting was adjourned, Annie demonstrated how to make S'mores Pops. The Club members participated in 'Cupcake Wars' and we had a Potluck meal.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gracie Boerner, Reporter

HOT MEALS ON WHEELS

Hot Meals on Wheels are Monday through Saturday for convalescents and persons who cannot purchase and prepare adequate meals. Meals are prepared by Lakeview Methodist Healthcare and volunteers deliver in Fairmont between 11 a.m. and noon each day. This is a community project and is non-profit and not government funded. For more info on Hot Meals on Wheels, contact Karen Toupal 507-773-4547.

Happy Valentine's Day

Pizza Ranch

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Sat-Sun Buffet ALL Day
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1101 N. State St

Valentine's Day Special

-- SERVING --

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Queen's Cut: \$17⁹⁵
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King's Cut: \$22⁹⁵
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Fairmont
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top ten

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- Tammy
- Dorothy
- Ida
- Mildred
- Edna
- Gladys
- Florence
- Bertha

Source: Ancestry.com

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Financial Focus



Provided by:

Paul Schellpeper, Drew Schellpeper, Wyman Fischer, Dan Hamlet, Mandi Kosbab

Financial Advisors, Edward Jones, www.edwardjones.com, Member SIPC

Be financially prepared for natural disasters

Just this past year, we've seen natural disasters in Texas, California, Florida and Puerto Rico - and looking back even further, it's not hard to spot other traumas in virtually every part of the country. Whether it's a tornado, hurricane, flood or wildfire, you may be at least potentially susceptible to a weather-related event that could threaten your physical - and financial - well-being. How can you protect yourself?

As far as your physical safety is concerned, you're probably already aware of

the steps you need to take to shield yourself and your family. And now that many alerts can be sent directly to your smartphone, you've got an even better chance to prepare for an approaching threat. But when it comes to safeguarding your financial situation, you'll need to be ready well in advance - and the following moves can help:

•Strengthen your home. Your home is probably your biggest asset, so you'll want to do everything you can to keep it safe. In the face of a truly calamitous event, such

as hundred-mile-per-hour winds or the advance of uncontrollable fire, there may not be much you can do, but in less dire circumstances, your actions can help. Your insurance professional can offer tips on protecting your residence.

•Maintain sufficient insurance. It's a good idea to review your existing homeowners or renters insurance periodically to make sure you are sufficiently covered for all possible hazards. Keep in mind that homeowners insurance does not typically cover flooding, so

you may need to purchase flood insurance from the National Flood Insurance Program. (Depending on where you live, this coverage may be required when you get your mortgage.) Also, in conjunction with maintaining your insurance, you should document your possessions, so you may want to make a video inventory as well as a written list containing descriptions and values.

•Create an emergency fund. A natural disaster can lead to a wide array of unanticipated costs: appliance repair or replacement, hotel and restaurant bills, insurance deductibles - the list could go on and on. Consequently, you'll help protect

yourself and your family by building an emergency fund. Some of this money should go into a liquid, low-risk account, but you may also want to keep a small amount of cash at home in a safe place, as ATMs and credit cards may not work during or following a disaster, when you must purchase needed supplies.

•Protect your documents. As you go through life, you'll accumulate a lot of documents - mortgage papers, insurance policies, financial accounts, tax statements and so on. If disaster strikes, you may need these documents. You'll want to store paper copies in a fireproof and waterproof box or safe at home,

in a bank safety deposit box, or with a relative or close friend. Of course, we're now living in a digital age, so you can store electronic copies of important documents in a password-protected format on a removable flash or external hard drive. Better yet, you might want to use a secure cloud-based service.

With luck, you can avoid being victimized by a natural disaster. But, as the old saying goes: "Hope for the best and prepare for the worst." From a financial perspective, that's good advice.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.



Mrs. Viesselman's 3rd graders at Fairmont Area Elementary School completed an engineering challenge at the end of their science unit. They were given the assignment of creating Native American homes using a variety of materials. Much trial & error and problem solving ensued. They created tepees, chickees, long houses, wigwams, and plank houses. (Submitted photo)



The 2018 Senior High Knowledge Bowl season is going strong for the Blue Earth Area squad midway through the season. At the Blizzard Invitational (Part 1) on Wednesday, January 19th in Blue Earth, the BEA Maroon team (left to right) - Amanda Jacobson, Grant Strukel, James Greer, Bobby Karp, Katlyn Schonborn) finished in second place with a score of 65 points - while at last Monday's meet in Blue Earth (Blizzard Part 2) the Maroon team finished fifth with 72 points. Senior High Knowledge Bowl coach for these students is Julie Ackerman with assistance from Mike Ellingsen. The next competition for the Bucs was in Mankato on Tuesday, February 6th. (Submitted photo)

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Ask A Trooper: Neck Brace

by Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol

Question: Can a person legally drive with a neck brace on in Minnesota? It would limit the ability to turn your head side to side or up or down. I'm trying to get facts before I let my family member drive.

Answer: Permanent lack of neck mobility would require a restriction

placed on the license that states they can legally drive if there is an "outside rearview mirror." A person temporarily wearing a neck brace would not be legal to drive.

For more information on restrictions that may be placed on various types of licenses, visit <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/Pages/default.aspx>

Below is a complete list of the restrictions that may be placed on various types of licenses.

A - ANY USE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS INVALIDATES LICENSE

B - HAND OPERATED BRAKES

C - COMPLETE HAND CONTROLS

D - PROSTHETIC AID

E - AUTOMATIC TRANS CMV

F - OUTSIDE MIRRORS

G - DAYLIGHT DRIVING ONLY

H - AUTOMATIC TRANS

I - ALSO VALID FOR 3-WHEEL MOTORCYCLE

J - FARM WORK AND DRIVER EDUCATION INSTRUCTION PERMIT

K - INTRASTATE ONLY

L - NOT VALID FOR CMVS WITH AIR BRAKES

M - NO CLASS A PASSENGER BUS

SENGER BUS

N - NO CLASS A AND B PASSENGER BUS

O - NO TRACTOR - TRAILER CMV

P - NO PASSENGERS IN CMV BUS

Q - HAND OPERATED LIGHT BEAM CONTROL

R - ELEVATED DRIVER SEAT

U - NO FREEWAY DRIVING

V - FMCSA MEDICAL WAIVER

W - BUS < 24 CAPACITY

X - NO CARGO IN CMV TANK VEHICLE

Y - IGNITION INTERLOCK REQUIRED

Z - AIR OVER HYDRAULIC BRAKE SYSTEM

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. Help us drive Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson - Minnesota State Patrol at 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester MN 55901-5848. (Or reach him at, Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us)



On Thursday, February 1st, Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont kicked off February Heart Month at Five Lakes Centre in Fairmont with a Love Your Heart event. The event featured an inflatable heart exhibit, activities for kids and adults, heart-healthy Super Bowl snack ideas, an automated external defibrillator (AED) demonstration. Second grade students from Fairmont elementary schools also attended the event. Pictured is Julie Rolstad, certified nurse practitioner at Mayo Clinic Health System in Fairmont discussing the part of the heart. (Submitted photo)

by Mike Marland

R.F.D.



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3 Notices

WANTED: ITEMS TO DO with history of Fairmont Speedway. Articles, any type of pictures, etc. 507-399-9069, 507-402-5332. 40-3tp-3

7 Help Wanted

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10 Apartments For Rent

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19 Other Real Estate

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23 For Sale

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24 Household Items

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MISCELLANEOUS A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's largest senior living referral service

Continued to page 16

HELP WANTED

Heavy Equipment Operator - Truman

Martin County is taking applications for a full-time Heavy Equipment (motorgrader) Operator to report to the Truman, MN shop of the Martin County Highway Department.

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school plus two years of related technical, or three years of related on the job training, a valid Class B Minnesota Driver's License and pre-employment drug test are required. At least three years of recent related highway maintenance experience, which includes the following skills and abilities, but not limited to: strong working knowledge of highway maintenance operations, strong working knowledge of the equipment, materials, methods, and practices used in highway maintenance operations, ability to effectively and safely perform various highway maintenance activities, ability to establish and maintain strong working relationships with others.

The qualifications listed above are guidelines. Other combinations of education and experience could provide the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities to perform this job.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: Maintenance of aggregate surfaced roads and shoulders, laying bituminous mixture on roads and bridge decks, back sloping, shaping and grading on slopes and ditches. Removes snow from county roads and highways in the winter. General maintenance on heavy equipment. Working with the general public with concerns about situations that come up dealing with roads.

Starting salary is \$20.47 per hour. Applications should be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 16, 2018 to the Minnesota Workforce Center; Five Lakes Centre, 400 South State Street, Suite 180; Fairmont, MN 56031.

Martin County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

Highway Maintenance Worker - Fairmont

Martin County is taking applications for a full-time Highway Maintenance Worker to report to the Fairmont, MN shop of the Martin County Highway Department. Valid Class A commercial driver's license and drug test are required. Graduation from high school plus two years of related technical, or three years of related on the job training preferred. Responsibilities include maintenance activities primarily on highways, bridges, shops, and equipment. Starting salary is \$18.87 per hour. Applications should be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 16, 2018 to the Minnesota Workforce Center; Five Lakes Centre, 400 South State Street, Suite 180; Fairmont, MN 56031

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OBITUARY notices

Lovilla M. Hartmann, 84



Funeral Service for Lovilla M. Hartmann, 84, of Northrop, was held Saturday, February 3rd, 2018 at the Church of Christ

in Truman. Burial will take place at a later date at Lakeside Cemetery in Fairmont. Lovilla passed away Monday morning, January 29th, 2018. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Lovilla Mae was born May 28, 1933 to Lester and Edna (Marsden) Baade in Artesian, South Dakota. Growing up her family moved to Truman, where she attended school and was a member of the 1951 graduating class.

On July 2nd, 1954 Lovilla was united in marriage to Lawrence Hartmann at the Church of Christ in Truman. Lovilla and Lawrence made their loving home together in Truman for two years before moving to Northrop, where Lo-

villa called home for sixty-one years. Lovilla and Lawrence were blessed with four daughters: Julie, Rita, Barb and Mitsy.

Lovilla was a member of the Church of Christ in Truman and worked as a cook at the Lakeview Methodist Health Care Center in Fairmont for twenty-eight years. In her spare time she enjoyed gardening, bird watching and sewing. Lovilla also liked to work on crafts and bake, especially for her grandchildren. She cherished time spent with her family, and often would travel near and far to visit. Lovilla will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Those left to cherish her memory include her daughters: Julie (Don) Planting of Fairmont, Rita

Buttram of Spring Hill, TN, and Mitsy (Kevin) Rasmussen of Fairmont; grandchildren: Nicole, Katie, Nathan, Jennifer, Amanda, Jason, Philip, Gregory, Nicholas, Dustin and Chantelle; sixteen great-grandchildren; sister, Velma (Harold) Miller; brother, Omar (Jane) Baade; sisters-in-law: Shirley Baade and Arlene Shoemaker; special pet dog, Marty; nieces, nephews, other extended family and friends.

In addition to her parents, Lovilla was preceded in death by her husband, Lawrence; daughter, Barb King; great-granddaughter, Natalie King; brother, Dalaine Baade; sister, Delois Sorgatz; and brothers and sisters-in law.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

DEATH notices



January 29 - Deloris L. Kastning, 90, Truman (formerly of Fairmont) Zaharia Family Funeral and Cremation Service

January 29 - Loville M. Hartmann, 84, Northrop.

Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service
January 29 - Gregory G. Nordstrom, 68, Huxley, Iowa. (formerly of Fairmont and Trimont).

Kramer Funeral Home

January 31 - Robert J. Zoeller, 87, Granada.

Lakeview Funeral Home

January 31 - Richard M. Hall, 88, Dunnell.

Kramer Funeral Home

February 2 - Morgan R. Tennyson, Jr., 77, Truman.

Zaharia Family Funeral and Cremation Service

In Memoriam

One Year Ago This Week

January 27 - Michael K. Lemon, 60, Fairmont.

February 1 - Florine C. Wellcome, 90, Fairmont

February 1 - Connie J. Lange, 76, Fairmont

February 2 - Earl A. Schrieber, 86, Ceylon

Robert "Bob" J. Zoeller, 87



Funeral Services for Robert "Bob" J. Zoeller, 87, of Granada, were held Sat-

urday, February 3rd, 2018 at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Fairmont. Burial was in St. Paul's United Church of Christ Cemetery in Pleasant Prairie Township with military honors provided by the Lee C. Prentice American Legion Post #36 and the Martin County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1222. Robert passed away Wednesday morning, January 31st, 2018 at the Trimont Health Care Center. Lakeview Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairmont assisted the family with arrangements.

Robert John Zoeller was born October 24th, 1930, to John and Mary (Eggers) Zoeller in Fairmont. He received his education from District 24 and graduated from Truman High School in 1948. Robert served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950 until 1955. He spent three years in Germany as a firefighter.

On April 28th, 1957, Robert was united in marriage to Elaine Thate at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Pleasant Prairie Township. This marriage was blessed with four children, Conrad, Keith, Kay Ann and Alan. After

their marriage, Robert and Elaine lived near Truman, East Chain and Granada. Robert kept busy farming and trucking where he hauled peas, sweet corn, carrots, sugar beets and seed corn. He also drove truck for Ferrel Gas and Rosen's.

Robert was a member of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Fairmont. He loved antique tractors, Ford pickups, collecting caps, camping and spending winters in Texas with trips to his favorite bakery in Mexico. His greatest enjoyment in life was

spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his loving wife of sixty years, Elaine Zoeller of Granada; four children, Conrad (Lorie) Zoeller of East Chain, Keith (Lori) Zoeller of East Chain, Kay (Tim) Campe of Fairmont and Alan (Tina) Zoeller of Kimberly, ID; four grandchildren, Angie (Kevin) Ritter of Belle Plaine, Eric Zoeller of Fairmont, Jenna (Billy) McAlister of Cleveland and Kristen Campe of Yankton, SD; three great-grandchildren, Tyler Ritter, Chloe Ritter and

Aubrey McAlister; step-grandchildren, Jennifer Craig, Evanne Craig and Tanner Craig all of North Carolina; brother, Harold (Ramona) Zoeller of Foley; many nieces and nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Mary Zoeller; mother and father-in-law, Harry and Gladys Thate; sisters and brothers-in-law, Frances and Leroy Strauser, Marion and Harold Wolle, Walter Barke and Joyce Zoeller; and granddaughter, Allison Zoeller Brown.

lakeviewfuneralhome.net

Morgan R. Tennyson, Jr., 77



Services for Morgan Rudolph Tennyson, Jr., 77, of Truman, were held Wednesday, February 7th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Truman. Interment followed the service at Ridgelawn Cemetery. Morgan passed away peacefully February 2nd, 2018, at the Heartland Senior Living in Truman surrounded by family and Pastor Rusert. Arrangements were handled by Zaharia Family Funeral and Cremation Service of Truman.

Morgan was born March 3rd, 1940, in Parkers Prairie, MN, to Morgan P. and Alvina (Fritz) Tennyson. He attended schools in Alexandria, MN and Fairmont, and was confirmed at Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fairmont April

3rd, 1955.

Morgan married the love of his life, Janice Faye Osborn, August 5th, 1960, in Fairmont. Morgan would always say "God put her on this earth just for me."

After beginning work at Bosshart Construction, he started building concrete grain elevators for Hogen Construction, Conger Construction, and Jacobson Construction. In 1981, he founded Tennyson Construction and continued to remain active in the company. Upon semi-retirement, he enjoyed travelling with his "lovely bride" to 48 of the states, along with bucket list trips to Alaska and China. They enjoyed spending winters at their home in Phoenix.

Throughout his life, Morgan cherished his faith, family and friends. He belonged to the Truman Lions Club, Truman Jaycees, a board member of the Truman Historical Society, and served on the board of both the St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School.

His hobbies included: collecting and driving classic cars, woodworking, playing the organ, and taking his wife dancing each month in Mankato and Mapleton.

The family would like to extend a special thank

you to our sister and aunt, Shirley Olsen, for being our "angel" throughout the last two years, and to Pastor Rusert for his spiritual support. Also, thank you to the Mayo Clinic Hospice and the staff at Heartland Senior Living Truman for the care and support they provided our father and family.

Morgan is survived by his wife of 57 years, Janice, of Truman; son, Michael Tennyson (Jeani) of Truman; daughters, Bonnie Froehlich (Todd) of Eau Claire, WI, Sandra Bartilomo (John) of Phoenix, AZ, Connie Gebur (Robert) of Woodbury, MN, Janet Raddatz (Gerald) of Prior Lake, and Jo Anne Lindaman (Scott) of River Falls, WI; grandchildren, Matthew, Tyler and Jacob Tennyson; Kate (fiance Samuel Osborn) and Mitchell Froehlich; John, Marissa, and Savannah Bartilomo; Ryan (Megan), Alexander (fiancee Amanda Kapusniak) and Cody Gebur; Nicholas and Nathan Raddatz; and Taylor and Hayley Lindaman; sisters, Lorraine Bonin of Fairmont, Karen (Dave) Larson of Apple Valley, Marjorie (Neol) Hibbard of Mankato, and Diane (Paul) Sheely of Fairmont; brother, Douglas (Pat) Tennyson of Norco, CA; brothers-in law, Lynn Flohrs and Larry

(Ardis) Osborn; sisters-in-law, Shirley Olsen and Jo Whitman, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Morgan and Alvina Tennyson; sister, Dorothy Flohrs; nephews, Todd Bonin and Garry Osborn; mother-in-law, Letta Leona Osborn (Whitman); fathers-in-law, Lester Osborn and Archie Whitman; and brothers-in-law, Carl Junior Bonin, Kent Olsen, and John Whitman.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: St. Paul's Lutheran Church or School in Truman, Truman Historical Society, Truman Heartland Senior Living, and Barrow Neurological Institute at 350 West Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85013, which conducts brain tumor research.

zahariafamilyfuneral.com

The Photo Press reserves the right to edit (as necessary) any obituary that is submitted for placement. All obituaries must be submitted by noon on Mondays. Any photos submitted must be in high resolution and high quality. Questions on the Photo Press obituary policy can be directed to Jeff Hagen at 238-9456 or jeff@fairmontphoto-press.com

25 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF

FEBRUARY 10, 1993

First Farmers & Merchants National Bank was holding a grand opening at their new building at the corner of South Park Street and East Blue Earth Avenue.

A Service of Ordination into Christian Ministry for Debra Valentine (Frye) and installation as Pastor of St. Paul's UCC and the Congregational Church of Granada UCC was to be held at the Granada Church.

The Fairmont Women of Today urged the local community to help them send mentally challenged citizens to Camp Confidence in Brainerd. By purchasing a button from their local waitress/waiter for \$1.00, they would be able to drink coffee free all day at Perkins, Happy Chef and Jeff's Bakery.

Local champion "Harmony Junction Barbershop Chorus" was working to raise money for their trip to the International Competition in Columbus, Ohio. Tickets were available for the group's three fund raising concerts from Brad Gerhardt, Fairmont, Adrian Hestness, Albert Lea, Wayne Ankeny, Blue Earth and Rob Sibillrud, Hartland.

50 YEARS AGO IN THE PHOTO PRESS

WEEK OF

FEBRUARY 10, 1968

Automatic traffic lights were to be installed at the corner of Blue Earth Avenue and South Park Street. The lights were to be synchronized with those at Prairie Avenue and North Avenue.

New officers of the Fairmont Exchange Club were Leonard Meschke, president; John Robson, vice president; Lowell Joerg, secretary. Ed Axel, Jeremy Kurtz, Charles Miller, Leon Kirk, Dr. Ronald Kost and Reg Reipke were board members.

Mrs. George Beulke of Burbank, California, the former Mary Jane Webb of Fairmont, reported that the annual Martin County Picnic held in that area had named her as secretary-treasurer of the association. Another former Fairmonter, Margaret Grant of Santa Ana, was named president. Mrs. Beulke was the daughter of Fairmont Mayor Dr. Lester Webb and his wife.

Portrait of a Veteran: Robert Malo

Guest Columnist



Joseph Kreiss, Portrait of a Veteran Project

It's a common story. One repeated thousands of times throughout the Midwest during the War years of the 1940s - High school graduates leaving the family farm and joining the military to fight. For Robert Malo of Fairmont, it was no different.

"They were still considered the enemy," he said. Japanese civilians had to be watched, too, Malo remembered. "They would try and steal gas or supplies from the base and we had orders to shoot and not take any prisoners."

was to take mail out to the surrounding units so the soldiers could get letters from home.

The Army veteran brought up an interesting side note, not often addressed when talking about war memories. "There was a real division

in the 24th Infantry between the White officers and the Black troops," Malo said. "It didn't go too smoothly." The United States Armed Forces were officially segregated until 1948, although World War II helped lay the foundation for post-war integration of the military. Executive Order 9981 officially ended segregation in the Armed Forces in 1948, but some forms of racial segregation continued until after the Korean War.

Malo was in Japan for nearly 10 months before leaving the military heading back to Martin County. He rejoined his dad on the family farm, eventually taking over the family farming business. Malo said he retired from farming when he was 64 years old. He has two grown children from his first wife. His son, Douglas, is a professor at South Dakota University and his daughter Georgie continues to operate the Malo family farm with her husband.

Malo was 18-year-old when he enlisted in the United States Army. "I wanted to go in early, but my parents wouldn't sign the waiver when I was 17, so I had to wait," Malo remembered.

After basic training at Fort Dix in New Jersey, Malo was sent to radio operators school. It was around the same time as the Japanese surrender. He joined up with the 25th Army Infantry Lightning Division with the Signal Corps., then was shipped to California to board a victory ship with other troops headed for Japan.

"It was winter when we got to Yokohama, Japan," Malo recalled. "It was so cold, and the devastation was unbelievable. There was so much debris, bombs and airplane parts scattered everywhere."

One of Malo's duties was standing guard over the Japanese prisoners.



Robert Malo, 90 years old
Born north of Fairmont in 1927
World War II U.S. Army Veteran

Local Pheasants Forever chapter attends state convention

By Mike Murphy, Martin County Pheasants Forever



The State Convention of Minnesota Pheasants Forever was held in Willmar during the third weekend of January and again this year several members of the Martin County Pheasants Forever Committee attended. Highlights for the committee included receiving the Minnesota Pheasants Forever "Chapter of the Year" award for events and accomplishments in 2017 that included the

32nd annual banquet in March, an annual trap shooting event in June, a youth trap and pheasant shoot in October and the seeding of a four acre pollinator plot in November. The "Chapter of the Year" award (inset photo) was a complete surprise as was the "Conservation

Excellence Award" presented to Martin County PF for over four-million dollars in contributions toward local habitat and conservation projects. The Martin County PF Chapter received the three-million dollar award just last year.



Truman Honor Roll

Following is the second quarter honor roll for the Truman Public Schools. The student's name is followed by grade:

Highest Honor Roll

Alexa Farnum 7, Ella Nagorske 7, Matthew Steuber 7, Gracie Zaharia 7, Johnnie Zaharia 7, Ainsley Brummond 8, Emma Fischer 8, Alexis Mercer 8, Eden Studer 9, Chloe Hartman 11, Alyssa Nagorske 11, Mitchell Steuber 11, Lydia Studer 11, Quintin Greer 12, James Hodge 12, Mason Maloney, 12, Parker Stevens 12

A Honor Roll

Kaitlyn Bell 10, Jaiden Cook 11, Clay Gieseke 11, Logan Bowers 12

B Honor Roll

Peyton Franzen 7, Colby Bruderie 8, Richard Dague 8, Karsan Davis 8, Teanna Meyer 8, Aiden Moler 8, Mason Peters 8, Kylee Bentz 9, Louis Bowers 9, Tallin Cook 9, Emma Lefebvre 9, Lilana Diaz 9, Kaley Meyer 10, Derek Davis 11, Benjamin Gonzalez 12, Micah Hudson 12, Thomas Kotewa 12, Deanna Martin 12, Derek Shoen 12

Al Batt continued from page 1

provide food, water and shelter to help wild birds survive. This assistance benefits the environment by supplementing wild bird's natural diet of weed seeds and insects. In addition, backyard bird feeding is an entertaining, educational and inexpensive pastime enjoyed by children and adults. Bird feeding provides a needed break from today's frantic lifestyles. Adults enjoy the relaxation and peacefulness afforded by watching birds -- nature serves to relieve the stress and

can get one's day going on a tranquil note."

Thanks for stopping by "Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great makes you feel that you, too, can become great."--Mark Twain

"The natural world is the refuge of the spirit, remote, static, richer even than human imagination. But we cannot exist in this paradise without the machine that tears it apart. We are killing the thing we love, our Eden, our progenitrix, and sibyl."--E. O. Wilson

DO GOOD.
© Al Batt 2018



Br'er Fox moves furtively through my yard.
By Al Batt

Girl Scout Cookie Rally



Martin County/Fairmont Girl Scouts had a fun time with the Cookie Rally last Friday. A pep rally full of fun and education on selling cookies was held the night before Cookie Go Date. The event was held at Grace Lutheran Church in Fairmont. Sales continue through March 18th. Cookies will be sold at booths at Hy-Vee, Fareway, Shopko, and Wal-Mart.



Thank You

to all players, spectators, workers, & community sponsors for making the 8th Annual Southern MN Pond Hockey Championship a Huge Success!!

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LEFTY LAY-UP - Cardinals Lexi Lunn goes in for two against the Saints Ellie Becker. Lunn went 4-4 on three pointers in the Cards victory. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



SAINT FOUL - Cards Abigail Tonder goes up for a layup and is fouled by the Saints Noemi Castaneda as teammate Kaydi Anderson looks on. The Cards downed St. James 65-24 last Tuesday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



St. John Vianney girls basketball team took first place at the St. Paul Lutheran Basketball Tournament last weekend in Fairmont. They won three games on Saturday to win the tournament and end the season undefeated. *(Submitted photo)*



The St. Paul Lutheran/St. James Lutheran Boys B team won their second tournament of the season when they won the St. Paul Lutheran Basketball Tournament last weekend. The team is coached by Matthew Singleton. *(Submitted photo)*

fairmont
sports.com
LIVE CARDINAL WEBSTREAMING VIDEO

Red Bulls 2nd at Mankato East Invite



Jagodzinske



Rohman



Simmonds



Fitzgerald



Steuber

The Fairmont/Martin County West Red Bulls captured five first place crowns at the Mankato East Cougar Invitational last Saturday. Lucas Jagodzinske, Jaxson Rohman, Connor Simmonds, Miles Fitzgerald and Collin Steuber all won their championship matches. The Red Bulls wrestling team finished runner-ups to Watertown Mayer- Mayer Lutheran. Team Results: Watertown Mayer- Mayer Lutheran 208; Red Bulls 181; Mankato East 147; Litchfield 146.5; Mankato West 134.5; Maple River 131.5; Worthington 86.5; LeSueur-Henderson 43; Austin 41.5. Red Bull Individual Results: 106 - 1st: Lucas Jagodzinske 31-3, Fr. 8-4 dec over Chase Groh (Mankato East), Sr; 113 - 1st: Jaxson Rohman 34-2, tech fall-1.5 5:00 over Trevor Pearson (Maple River), So; 120 - 1st: Connor Simmonds 35-4, Fr. 6-5 dec over Jorge Hernandez (LeSueur-Henderson), Jr; 126 - 3rd: Jacob Prunty (Worthington), Sr. 8-2 dec over Cale Steuber 29-10, So; 145 - 1st: Miles Fitzgerald 29-6, So. 5-0 dec over Josh Block (Mankato West), Sr; 160 - 3rd: Simon Koenigs (Mankato West), Sr. pinned Parker Anderson 14-16, Sr; 170 - 1st: Zac Neaton (Watertown Mayer- Mayer Luth.), Sr. pinned Tristan Lange 25-7, Jr; 182 - 1st: Collin Steuber 35-3, Sr. 9-3 dec over Kal Jackman (Litchfield), Sr; 195 - 5th: Logan Ziegler (Maple River) 19-15, Sr. 5-3 dec over Jacob Rahn 15-15, So; 220 - 1st: Dylan Matter (Watertown Mayer- Mayer Luth.) 19-12, Jr. 7-5 dec over Conner Tordsen 20-12, Sr. *(submitted photos)*



HOCKEY MOM - Connie Havnen shoots from the blue line as Scott Nuss looks at the line. The Cardinal parents took part in a family shoot-out between periods during the Redwood Valley game. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*



QUICK SHOT - Cards Tony Nuss gets a shot off past Redwood Valley's #11 Matthew Muetzel. Nuss had a hat trick including an empty net goal. Carson Kuhl added a goal in the Cards 4-2 win over Redwood Valley last Friday night. *Courtesy fairmontsports.com*

Magic gymnasts defeat Blue Earth

The Martin County Area Magic gymnastics team defeated the Blue Earth Bucs Tuesday, January 30th in Welcome. Photos submitted are of Ellie Schultze placing 3rd on bars, Gwen Kallemeyn placing 2nd on bars, Brielle Meade 1st on floor, and Anna Utermarck placing 3rd on vault.



GWEN KALLEMEYN



BRIELLE MEADE



ELLIE SCHULTZE



ANNA UTERMARCK

Farmers and the federal tax law changes

By: Sarah Gerhard, CPA Erpelding, Voigt & Co., CPAs - Fairmont

Farmers will see an impact to their bottom line due to the recent tax law changes. The new legislation primarily effects tax returns beginning in 2018 with a few exceptions. So while most of the changes discussed below will not be reflected directly on the returns about to be filed by March 1st or April 15th, they could impact the decisions you make on your farm over the course of the next year.

There are many positive changes included in the tax bill regarding farm assets. First of all, the recovery period of farm machinery has been lowered from seven years to five years. Second, farm property with a life of 10 years or less will be allowed to use the 200% declining balance method instead of the 150% method. Third, all farm assets other than land, whether new or used, qualify for 100% bonus depreciation. This change to bonus depreciation is retroactive to September 28th, 2017. And lastly, the 100% expensing by section 179 will increase to \$1 million dollars with a phase out of \$2.5 million. These changes all mean that depreciation deductions can be accelerated in the earlier years, which makes planning with your CPA even more important.

One unfortunate change is that deferring gains on farm equipment trades via a like-kind exchange is now only applicable for real property. Personal property exchanges will require the farmer to report the taxable gain on the sale of the machinery based on the "trade-in" value. However, for federal purposes, the farmer can offset the gain by taking 100% bonus depreciation or Section 179 on the new piece of equipment. Minnesota farmers may still see an increase in their state income tax due to this change. Minnesota only allows \$25,000 of section 179 and limits the amount of bonus to 20% so less gain can be offset by the new asset purchase.

The 9% domestic production activities deduction that many farmers have grown accustomed to (typically passed-through from cooperatives on form 1099-PATR) has been repealed. There is a new 20% deduction for qualified business income, including income from pass-through entities and sole proprietorships. The deduction is among

the most complex of all the legislation that was passed and the IRS will be providing further guidance on the deduction as not all the details are known yet. In general, the above-the-line deduction will be for the lessor of taxable income or 20% of qualified business income. If you are married and your taxable income is over the threshold \$315,000, the deduction begins to phase out. The threshold is half that for single taxpayers.

The new deduction imposes several limitations



Sarah Gerhard, CPA

if your taxable income goes above \$415,000 for married taxpayers. The limitation of the qualified business income for those taxpayers is equal to the greater of 50% of wages paid by the business or 25% of wages paid plus 2.5% of the unadjusted basis of farm equipment. This is a favorable stipulation for capital intensive industries such as farming, but is not easy to calculate so meeting with a tax advisor is recommended. There are many strategies to take advantage of this new deduction being circulated, but it is advised to wait for additional IRS guidance before making any drastic changes.

There is one aspect of this new deduction (Section 199A) that has been receiving quite a bit of attention and may receive a "fix" by Congress. As the code is currently written, there could be substantial benefit to farmers who receive a majority of their income from cooperatives. Those farmers would be allowed to deduct the lesser of 20% of total coopera-

tive distributions or 100% of their taxable income less net capital gains.

Some lawmakers are questioning this aspect of the bill as it gives a competitive advantage to cooperatives over non-cooperatives. They do not believe the new law should pick winners & losers and fear the law was hurried and consequently had unintended results. It is unknown if Congress will be able pass a "fix." The changes impacting C-corporations are a mixed bag depending on your income level. If you operate your farm as a C-corporation, you now have a flat tax rate of 21% across the board. Before the tax brackets ranged from 15% to 38%. If you were able to maintain your corporate taxable income at the \$50,000 level or less, you will experience a tax hike from the old 15% rate to 21%. This change is per-

manent while many of the individual changes are only temporary and will eventually expire.

While not a federal change, Minnesota has signed into law a tax credit for the rent or sale of farmland and other farm assets to beginning farmers. Currently, less than 5% of Minnesota farmers are under the age of 35. This credit was enacted as an effort to decrease the high barriers of entry into farming and support the next generation of farmers. The credit is for 5% of the sale price of the farm asset (including land), up to \$32,000, 10% of the rental income in the first three years, up to \$7,000 per year, and 15% of the share rent during the first three years, up to \$10,000 per year.

The beginning farmer cannot be related to you and must have entered into farming within the past ten years. The beginning farmer must file the appropriate paperwork with the Rural Finance Authority to be eligible and take a class. This is not a

permanent credit, so take advantage of it while you can.

On your current 2017 return, consider deferring income to 2018 and accelerating expenses in 2017. There will still be seven tax brackets next year, but they have been adjusted downwards by about 3% each. The culmination of all the changes above plus the lower tax rates will

likely lower your overall tax bill.

These are just a glimpse of the numerous tax law changes. Overall, I believe that many farmers will see a real tax cut and will keep more of their hard earned money at the end of the day. To understand how these changes may apply to your specific situation, consult with your CPA.

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